



Rosa Parks
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GATEWAY GAZETTE

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WE DESERVE BETTER! FACULTY PROTEST POOR WAGES

Othneil Wilson and Robert Folan-Johnson

The RCC adjunct faculty demonstrated on Tuesday, October 18, in front of the administration building. The faculty, both full and part time, were protesting what they say are low wages and poor working conditions and lack of job security at a time when college presidents were getting a 14% increase in wages. They were also protesting the deduction of pay from the wages of Professor Dutt, a part-time faculty member who only received half his remuneration last semester. Ten teachers and four students attended the event, which lasted about a half hour.

The teachers believe that there is a growing trend of over-reliance on part timers by the state college system. Budget cuts, they say, have forced colleges to act like private corporations. They state that 7 out of 10 faculty members in Massachusetts community colleges are now part time, which is hurting both full time faculty members and students.

These teachers' wages are based on the number of students in each class. They receive no health benefits and have no on-campus office hours to meet with students.

This is in contrast to full time teachers who receive full benefits and whose salaries remain the same regardless of class size.

"I am losing about \$1500 per month because one of my classes does not have the full compliment of students," said one adjunct faculty member who wished to remain anonymous. "That's a lot of money that I really need."

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WASH OUT: RCC GREENHOUSE FLOODS SCHOOL

Robert Folan-Johnson

An early morning torrent of water flooded Roxbury Community College's Academic Building October 20th resulting in canceled classes and damage to some of the building.

The water, overflowing from the Academic building's rooftop greenhouse flooded classrooms and offices on the buildings upper floors and even managed to trickle its way down to the second floor school library.

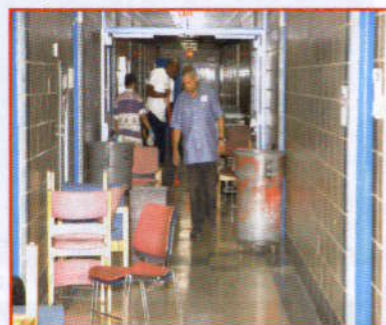
The flood was discovered around 6am by Zephaniel Reid, or "Charley," of the RCC *Facilities and Public Safety Department*, when he noticed water dripping into the library from the ceiling.

The source of the water turned out to be the school's greenhouse on the roof just above the 4th floor faculty lounge. Jack Youdine, RCC's Chief Plant Operator, discovered water that was 2 feet deep and overflowing out of the greenhouse and down into the building below.

By the time Youdine turned off the water the damage had already occurred. Water had poured down into 4th floor faculty lounge, causing the ceiling to collapse. The flood inundated that floor and the others below with up to 2 inches of water.

Although this was not the first such occurrence for the apparently flood prone faculty lounge, *Facilities and Public Safety Director*, Orikaye G. Brown, called it "the worst

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The cluttered fourth floor hallway after the flood.

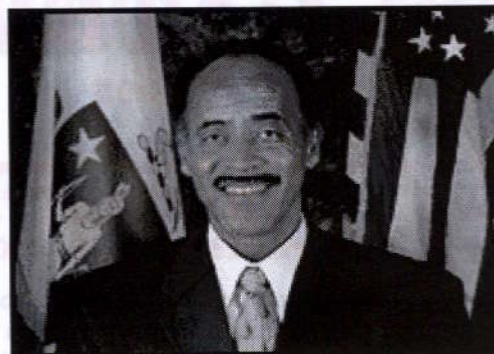


Teachers and students at last months protest.

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A Message of Welcome from President Gomes.



Office of the President

Roxbury Community College

1234 Columbus Avenue

Roxbury Crossing, Massachusetts 02120-3400

(617) 541-5301

Dear Students,

As President of Roxbury Community College, allow me to welcome you to RCC. We are happy to know that RCC is your college of choice. It is my hope to meet and greet as many of you as possible during the semester.

This academic year, we have added several programs, certificates, and services that give us great pride. We now have a Radiology Technology degree program and certificates in Bio-Manufacturing and Engineering CAD. Secondly, we have just become members of the Boston Public Library and the Fenway Library Consortia. This means that, through our RCC Library, you will have access to any books from those vast collections.

Finally, we want know about your academic progress. If you need help in any area, you should contact the Advising Office, the Office of Student Affairs, and/or the Division Deans of Liberal Arts, Nursing and Allied Health, Math, Science, and Technology, and Business and Technology. You have my promise that we will do everything we can to make your time here productive and valuable.

Sincerely,

Dr. Terrence A. Gomes
President

Faculty Demonstration

(Continued from page 1)

RCC president Terrence Gomes states that he has no problem with the teachers' protest and feels that people have the right to demonstrate when they believe they have being wronged. He acknowledges that the current situation is a system wide one that needs attention but hiring mainly part time teachers is not necessarily a policy of RCC. "This is a matter that is being addressed right now," he says, "but in addressing this matter, like any other matter, my primary concern is the impact any changes will have on this institution." He further stated that there were some inaccuracies in statements being made by the union.

Professor Ruth Kiefson, president of the union, has another opinion. "These are good jobs, real jobs with benefits being lost for the next generation. You students may want to be teachers; you don't want to have to be chasing your paycheck from college to college. It is our responsibility to protect the jobs for the next generation and this is happening all over, in every industry. The whole system is in crisis, it is not working for the working people. Everything is being done to make corporations richer. It is a broad issue. People are not valued; oil in the Middle East is."

She admits that there was one inaccuracy in the fliers that were previously printed and circulated, which was the issue of the percentage of increases granted to community college presidents.

She wished that there was more student participation, but feels most students were not aware of the protest. One student who did attend, Jerome Hicks, said, "Our professors are part time and we came out to support the part time staff, they are deserving of the equal treatment." SGA president Giselle O'Brady had no comment on the issue as she feels she lacks adequate information on all the issues, affecting both sides.

RCC Wash Out

(continued from page one)

flooding of the school" since his arrival over five years ago.

Despite that fact the school was fortunate. Outside of soggy carpeting and falling ceiling tiles the flood caused only minor damage. No books or technical hardware were damaged in the library, only the carpeting was soaked.

Water did reach the schools mainframe computer on the third floor but a roll of plastic and some quick thinking by the Information Technology Department prevented any damage to RCC's network communication and data storage system.

The flood was possibly caused after a RCC greenhouse attendant accidentally forgot to turn off the taps that were watering greenhouse plants. Dr. Brown-West estimates the water may have been left running since the previous afternoon.

Facilities and Public Safety staff feverishly attempted to clean up the water before the start of morning classes with much of the fourth floor cordoned off. Their diligent effort to dry out the building was commended by many at the school.

Still, with so much water on the 4th floor and throughout the building, many classes had to be moved or canceled.

Floodwaters in the halls and classrooms confused many students upon their arrival at school. Many attempted to bravely slip-slide their way around the building in search of moved or canceled classes.

Meanwhile, alarmed RCC faculty members scrambled to preserve the contents of their offices from the water streaming in underneath their doors.

One faculty member, who witnessed the early morning deluge, jokingly referred to the event as a "Katrinita," or a little Katrina. Fortunately the outcome of RCC's little "Katrinita" was not that severe.

Why the miniature monsoon was not discovered and brought under control earlier may be due to the limited staff the school now has on at nights.



The Mainframe, protected by its temporary rainwear (top). Meanwhile Facilities staff clean up the library (bottom).

Photographs courtesy of Milton Samuels

The Right Stuff

Giselle O'Brady Accepts the Challenge as SGA President

Charlotte Cowan

To many students at Roxbury Community College, you can say the name Giselle O'Brady and get very little response. She stands about five foot nine inches, is slender, wears glasses, and her face is often brushed with a faint smile, as if she is always content.

The twenty-eight-year old Trinidadian native strolls through the halls of the academic building on her way to class barely noticed. Her fellow students know her as the girl with all the answers.

Giselle O'Brady is our elected class president.

In the beginning, participating in student government had never appealed to O'Brady, that is, until a fellow student invited her to one of the meetings.

When the meeting came to an end, O'Brady knew that student government was for her.

When she first arrived on campus, O'Brady noticed a pattern in some of the students' behavior at RCC. Many students just showed up for class and never participated in campus activities or events.

This was very different from what O'Brady had experienced when attending Northeastern University for the summer semester. She noticed how much students at Northeastern really love their school.

Raised by a single mother who was a very active member in the church, O'Brady inherited her drive to step up to the plate as well as her willingness to help. Feeling that it was time for a change at RCC, the new class President wanted to be one of the driving forces of that change.

O'Brady feels it is important for students to view RCC as a "stepping stone" and not just a place to take a few classes and then go home.

Students need to "help the school as the school helps them," says the class president.

Now that O'Brady is president, her main goal is to "make students more aware of student government as a whole rather than just one person."

She also is very focused on building school morale and making more activities available on campus.

After RCC, this soft spoken business major wishes to pursue studies in the entertainment business at a four year school. When asked if becoming a member of student government at Emerson College or Clemson is on her agenda, she simply replied, "Possibly."



Students need to "help the school as the school helps them."

Your SGA Representatives



Monte Evan
Vice President

Keisha Mercury
Secretary

Gaffner Brilliant
Representative

Greg St-Dick
Representative

Tayla Dandy
Representative

Tyesha Isom
Representative

Student Activities

RCC and Emerson College are proud to present Tennessee William's masterpiece **A Streetcar Named Desire**, Nov 11-20, at the Media Arts Center. Two RCC students Claudio Lopez and Vanity Reyes are part of the cast. Tickets are \$10. Call 617-541-5380 or email greenp@roxbury.edu

In November Club Hope will be hosting a **Open Mike Poetry Jam** Nov 17th. Also coming soon, the SGA will be hosting a **Pool Tournament** in December 7th.

Every Tuesday the **Bible Club** has their meetings in room 315 of the student activities building.

The **Audio Video Club** Also meets Thursdays and some Tuesdays at 11:30 in the Studio.

Pizza and Politics meets every Wednesday with a new topic from 1:30pm in room 132 Academics Building.

On Wednesday, The **Business Club** has their weekly meeting at 2:00pm in Room 455. For information contact Dean Rita Padmore.

Every Thursday is the **SGA Movie Day** from 11:30 - 12:50 in the Student Activities Building in room 201

Also on Thursday the "**Sister to Sister**" club holds their forum for women in the Student Center, room 315.

Everyone is invited to **SGA meetings**, held in the Student Activities building, room 319 every Tuesday from 11:30 am - 12:45 pm

The **Journalism Club** meets weekly in the Writing Center. Talk to Judy if you are interested in working on the *Gazette*.

The SGA is having our annual **Thanksgiving Can Drive**, so look out for our can and/or cash deposit station in the cafeteria. Thanksgiving Baskets will be made up to be given to needy and very deserving families.

If you have questions or you are a club that has idea for an event then contact Ms Clark, Director of Student Activities, at 617-541-5332 or Giselle O'Brady, SGA president, at sgapresident2005@roxbury.edu or phone: 617-427-0060, ext 5003

Also, keep a look out for flyers posted around campus that announce upcoming events.



Jermaine Reese
Representative



Casey Singleton
Representative



Frenell
Jean-George
Representative



Shekora White-
head
Representative

Interview: Stephanie Janey, of Enrollment Management and Students Affairs

Othneil Wilson

Stephanie Janey is the new VP of Academic Affairs at RCC. A beautiful and dynamic person, she has been entrusted with the task of spearheading the school's new vision. She comes highly qualified and experienced. Stephanie has worked at the University of Massachusetts in various capacities for 22 years. Her last position was that of Dean of Students in the Office of Student Affairs.

Stephanie was educated at Jeremiah Burke High School, Hampton University and the University of Massachusetts. She is currently pursuing doctoral studies at UMass. Recently, I sat down with her to find out the direction she has for the school and what her experiences have been so far at RCC.

Othneil Wilson – How has your experience at RCC been so far?

Stephanie Janey – Exhilarating, busy and hectic. But it has also been very rewarding. I feel very much a part of the community.

OW – Would you compare it favorable to some other places you have worked?

SJ – It's very different from working at a four-year school. I have tried to learn about community colleges.

OW – What differences have you found?

SJ – Mostly in the mission of the community colleges... It feels more like a community here. Information gets down to lower levels faster.

OW – How much interaction is there between you and the student body and is it satisfactory?

SJ – It is not constant. It has mainly been in dealing with students who come or are sent to me with problems they have. I would like to meet with them more often. In fact, I would like to have a regularly scheduled meeting with students, maybe have some refreshments in my office and hear all their concerns.

OW – What exactly does your job entail?

SJ – I have put together a comprehensive plan to include marketing, recruiting and retention, and also where to recruit. I have thought about having a family and friends campaign to try and dispel the negative perceptions of the college.

OW – Is this a collaborative effort? How much has the SGA worked with you on this?

SJ – Not much; I have not brought it to them.

OW – How much of a positive response have you gotten and from whom?

SJ – I have not gotten much response but would very much like to have feedback from the SGA.

OW – How much do you think RCC is doing to meet the needs of the community?

SJ – We are trying hard to do outreach in the community. One program we have is the Roxbury Adult Literary Coalition. In partnership with community agencies we work with adults to try and work on improving basic skills. Also students from the Waitt House toured the facility recently. This was in an effort to show options for the future.

OW – What policies or programs would you like to see implemented that may be outside your control?

SJ – I would like to improve Health Services where students experiencing problems, such as psychological, can be referred to the appropriate agencies.

OW – Since there are no Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) in Massachusetts, how much of a possibility do you think it is that RCC could eventually evolve into such an institution?

SJ – This is not a goal. I think RCC just needs to be the best community college it can be and help its students navigate the higher education environment.

OW – What obstacles do you think are in the way of that?

SJ – The biggest issue is increasing enrollment. When enrollment increases revenue increases. Then funds would be available to do more things.

OW – It is a popular belief that black women face a kind of "double barrier" in pursuit of their goals: being both black and a woman. How much of an issue has that been for you?

SJ – Because of who I am, it has not been an issue, but I know it has been one for both black women and women overall. I think higher education is a great place for women.

OW – What is it about you that has made it less of an issue and driven you to success in your field?

SJ – High expectations – I have an inner drive to succeed. I have always wanted a college education and after that, I just wanted more. I am now pursuing my doctorate and this has been more of a personal goal for me than one that I'm required to have in order to have this job. I never walk away from a challenge. I was the first one in my family to attend college.



We are trying hard to do outreach in the community

Learning

FAST TRACKING!**New RCC Certificate Programs Help Speed Your Way to Success!**

Want to learn new skills to strengthen your appeal to employers and get into the workforce fast?

An RCC Certification Program may be just what you need.

Certification Programs, or CPs, are short non-degree programs in a specified area of study. CP's usually consist of about 8 classes so they can often be completed in less than a year's time. Once finished, you have accumulated a set of viable skills attractive to employers. CP's are ideal if you are in a hurry to get into the workforce, wish to speedily transition from one field of work to another, or you just want additional skills to complement your degree. Should you want to expand your knowledge further, most CP credits can be transferred into degree programs, although some classes may be too highly specialized to transfer easily.

**Biotechnology is
using living
things to create
helpful tools and
products**

Roxbury Community College is now offering 12 Certificate Programs (see inset) including a new one in the booming field of Biomanufacturing. We spent a few minutes with Dr Kristin Laird, a recent addition to the RCC faculty, to talk about the new Certificate in Biomanufacturing. Dr. Laird will be teaching many of the program's classes.

GG- What is the Biomanufacturing Certificate program all about?

Dr Laird- Biotechnology is using living things to create helpful tools and products in areas such as food and agriculture, the environment, health and medicine, and forensics. The Biomanufacturing Certificate Program focuses on one aspect of biotechnology—using living cells to create proteins for use in research and development, as drugs or therapeutic agents, etc.

GG- I have a friend who is an academic advisor at Middlesex Community College. She's told me that many students don't even get through their Biotech CP before they are hired locally. Is this sort of growth in Biotech expected to last?

Dr Laird- All signs point to continued growth. RCC is in a great location, just a few miles from many diverse biotechnology companies across the river in Cambridge.

GG- Is it likely we will see the export of Biotech jobs overseas that we have seen in the computer industry?

Dr Laird- My hunch is that it seems less likely, given that biotechnology facilities are very expensive to build and moving an already established company overseas would be a logistical nightmare.

GG- Will students work in the lab in this program?

Dr Laird- Yes. In addition to the prerequisite lab courses of Biology, Chemistry and Microbiology, Introduction to Biomanufacturing I and II are essentially laboratory-intensive courses with a small lecture component. They will meet for 6 laboratory hours and 2 lecture hours weekly.

GG: Does the program offer an internship?

Dr Laird: The plan is for internships to be part of the Biomanufacturing Certificate Program.

GG: Thanks Dr. Laird, and welcome to RCC.

RCC Certificate Programs**Biomanufacturing****Allied Health****Bookkeeping****CAD Mechanical Drafting I****Computer Information Systems****Computer Information Systems-****Microcomputer Applications****Computer Network Administration****Engineering & Agricultural Design and CAD I****Hospitality Operations****Office Technology Training****Office Technology-Word Processing****Paralegal Studies**

**Career & Transfer Services
November Events**

Thursday, 11/10
Tuesday, 11/15
Thursday, 11/17
Tuesday, 11/2

Job Search and Interviewing Techniques
Internship Information Table
4-year School Transfer Workshop
Career & Transfer Planning For Evening Students

Library, Computer Lab
Academic Lobby
132 Academic Bldg.
Academic Lobby

Career Counseling and Placement Staff

Mark Garth
Interim Director
Transfer Counseling
Room 207P Academic Building
617-933-7450

Sahra Kuper
Career Services Counselor
Room 207K Academic Building
617-933-7455
skupper@rcc.mass.edu

Jennie Thrash
Internship Coordinator
Internships
Room 207N Academic Building
617-933-7434



Othneil Wilson

Bitch, Ho or Lady, Which One Are You?

My esteemed colleague, Greg Daniel, wrote an enlightening article called "Mo' Monkey, Mo' Problems" in the Vol. 1, Issue 3 edition of the *Gateway Gazette*. Indeed, those issues mentioned by Greg – the prolific, but not necessarily correct, use of the words "nigga" and "monkey" by the present generation of African-Americans – have befuddled me for years. The premise that blacks can call each other terms that have long been held to be derogatory, but by which no other ethnic group can address them, is simply ridiculous. This got me thinking about how black women address each other.

I happened to overhear one of my female friends referring to her friend as "bitch" and watching them laugh about it. I questioned her as to why this was so, and she boldly let me know that women could do that to each other, but nobody else could. Oh really? Does the meaning of the word change the minute it comes out of a woman's mouth and then revert to its original meaning when said by a man? I think not!

Calling a woman a bitch, in many other countries, whether you are male or female, would immediately start a fight. Wigs would be cast off, faces would be scratched, clothes would be torn off and a crowd would gather. But I digress. Is it that in America, black women are immune to the real meaning of such words, much like insecticides lose their effects on roaches?

Ghetto, it is often said, is a state of mind. Could it be then that most black women who use these words are in such a permanent ghetto state of mind that elevating their thinking is somehow impossible? When you call your friend a ho and she greets you like-wise, is it because you share each other's secrets?

One of my female classmates, who would rather not be identified, says she uses the words but only with her friends. Around them, she says, the words are used loosely and have a different connotation. Er, dictionary please! They have learned, she opines, to rise above these words and labels when relating as friends. She wouldn't use it with another woman who was not close to her, though. It is not acceptable to use it with anyone other than your friends or relatives.

How then does she explain the deafening screams that emanate from females of all ages at rap concerts? When these rappers shout, "Where my bitches at?" the women just seem to get all wild and crazy. Are these rappers part of the inner circle too? How come they get to call the whole female population of the United States "bitches" and "hoes" and no one else can? Does money and fame buy you a pass?

I can't help but feeling that use of these words has helped to hold us down as a race. If another person constantly refers to you in a derogatory way, then you are bound to think, somewhere in your subconscious that that is exactly what you are.

There are better words in the English language by which we can refer to each other. How about beautiful sister, empress, princess, Nubian queen, or even, dare I say it, lady? I mean, there have to be some words more positive in their description.

Maybe it's true that I don't understand the culture, having not brought up in it. But aren't black people the same the world over? I have sisters. Seven of them, in fact, and if anyone called *them* a "bitch" or a "ho," I'm going to have serious problems with them!

I can admit to using the word bitch once or twice, in anger. The word was intended to convey such anger at the time. Not that it makes it right, but people say a lot of things in the heat of the moment. I had to profusely apologize for using the word. If my mother had heard me she would have surely cut my neck off. So when I came to the United States and heard these words being carelessly flung about, I wondered if indeed I really was in the most civilized country in the world!

There are many admirable things about black culture in America. Indeed, the rest of the world seems to be almost caught up in it most of the time and most people try to emulate. But these derogatory terms certainly are not numbered amongst the admirable traits, and they need to be remedied as quickly as possible. For certain, I can't afford a ho. And why would I want a bitch beside me? Haven't I got enough troubles already?

Student BODY 101



Redemption Revolution

Candace Bass

Why will nobody in my generation take a chance to change something that is desperate for change? Every person in this nation has complained about something: the discrepancy is doing something about it. Over time the word revolution has evolved into a negative term, why is this? Let's examine the definition of Revolution. In political terms it is a sudden, radical, or complete change, a fundamental change in political organization: "The overthrow or renunciation of one government or ruler and the substitution of another by the governed" (Merriam-Webster's dictionary).

As everything in the world is changing, some may question whether or not we need a revolution. Why? The document that our country was built on, The Declaration of Independence, states strongly, "All men are created equal." If that statement is true then why, subsequent to the hurricane tragedy in New Orleans, did it take time for the U.S. government to respond? The Federal government, as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), left the victims of Hurricane Katrina to rot in the street for more than 72 hours. There was absolutely no help towards our people. The majority of the emergency organizations did not succeed in doing what they have been trained to complete. The storm of Katrina was predicted three weeks before it touch land, and when it did the answers from America's representatives to the victims were so weak, it made many people mortified to be an American.

The storm is just a small piece of the disfigured puzzle of America's failure to protect all citizens. Since Hurricane Katrina, it has been made obvious that there is a glitch in the system of the U.S.A. We have had many additional pieces to the puzzle already laid down in our history.

It took a natural disaster that completely motivated an entire city to wake up this country in correlation to poverty and racism, and even now there are some people who don't consider the idea of revolution. This has shown us that the country that is supposed to embrace each other when our fellow man is down, actually has more important priorities other than improving the injustices and conflicts in America. These are just a small number of things that are infecting our country and something should be done. Some may agree that this is an obvious conflict by way of racism. If "all men are created equal," why didn't the survivors of Katrina receive the help that they morally deserved?

The last time our nation had a thriving revolution was in the 1960's during the Civil Rights Movement. There is no doubt those times and people have changed, but our political circumstances have only worsened. It may not seem this way to some because the damage being done to our nation is undercover and we should become unified to find out what's going on.

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Sad Moments in History

Christian White

To the average American citizen, the phrase 'The Patriot Act' brings to mind the catastrophic events of September 11, 2001. the Patriot Act, an acronym for **P**roviding **A**ppropriate **T**ools **R**equired to **I**ntercept and **O**bstruct **T**errorism Act of 2001, is a tool Congress passed into law, allowing the federal government virtually free reign in their mission to exterminate 'Terrorism'. Most Americans have no idea what the Act is, yet feel that something was need to stop the hater-of-life from using planes as agents of death. Granted, some aspects of the Act are helpful in fighting terrorism. Other aspects, such as "sneak and peek" measures, are a violation of civil rights. If the American public knew what the Act allowed, I believe they would reconsider their position and take a stance against this unconstitutionality.

"As a British politician once stated, democracies respond when there is blood in the streets" (Jennifer Collins: *And the Walls Came Tumbling Down*). There was much "bloods in the streets" in the aftermath to the attack in New York City and Washington D.C. Emotions were running rampant as American citizens set out that morning to carry out their everyday routines. I remember coming home from work at three in the afternoon. My girlfriend of the time was glued to the TV set, shaking her head. When I walked into the room, she jumped into my arms. Not only did she express the sadness that nonsensical death brings, but she also feared for her personal safety, for she is a Muslim and it was the 'Muslims' who were responsible. Christopher Hewitt, in his book *Understanding Terrorism in America* states: "For democracies threatened by terrorism, security concerns and civil liberties are often in conflict."

At first, I thought that this meant that the Muslim population in America would have to suffer for this horrendous act. I thought that the government understood that some innocent Muslim lives would have to be sacrificed, after the fashion of an eye for eye. Like everyone else, I watched the news for the rest of the evening in an attempt to understand exactly what happened. Understanding did not come. Instead, I watched replay after replay of the first, then the second, plane slamming into the Towers at break-

(Continued on page 10)

The Gateway Gazette

Othneil Wilson, Editor
Staff Reporters

Tyesha Isom
Christian White

Gregory St Dick - Cartoons
Candace Bass
Charlotte Cowan

Robert Folan-Johnson, Andell Carruth, Graphics and Layout

Comments and Letters should be sent to the editor at:
jahbless@rcc.mass.edu

Academic advisors — Judy Kahalas and David Updike
Editor's note: some articles in this issue were written previous to this semester.

Redemption Revolution

(Continued from page 9)

Sheryl Goodloe, a Westwood MA. METCO director, states, "The damage is the unknown information on the war, random people who are being placed in the highest position in the justice system of America, and voting questions that are in code numbers so we as clueless citizens vote YES against our rights." If we don't have access to the information that let's us know where America is going, how can we progress forward? I have found this to be the pattern of our nation. Since the beginning, there have always been those who are down so that others may rise ahead. There are things that need to be changed.

My generation is the key to political change. But first we must check ourselves. We should be the brightest, the most open minded, and the most coherent, to what the condition of this country is because we are the future. The young people who are in college and other education institutions need to lead the rest of us. It is not by coincidence that we are sitting at these desks learning continually. It is so we may spread the knowledge to others so that we may rise up hand in hand.

Student representative of the student government Association Greg Saint Dick stated, "public school systems are to blame, they do not teach us anything. The only thing that has been taught to us is capitalism." And he is right. Capitalism is not a tool; it seems to be the way of life of America and this is why so many of us are being left behind. My generation needs to stop, look around, and listen to what is taking place so that we do not fall in the trap.

University of Massachusetts Boston student Sada Corzo states, "See, in America there is a script for young minorities and that is to go to school and get lots of degrees so that you may go work for someone and settle, but we should not follow that script, that is the source of the revolution." Bob Marley sang it best. "Emancipate yourself from mental slavery." In other words we need to find ourselves first and then attack the poison around us. Professor David Updike states, "Your generation needs more social and political awareness. There needs to stop being such a negative philosophy towards awareness." Well I want to start the awareness and I want you to join me. It would take someone from this generation to start the process, right? I will not wait any longer. Theory without action equals nothing. There are many things that need to change in correlation to the political status of this nation. Our president, who we did not elect and cheated his way into office, is running our government. Many others agree with me that action needs to be taken. We see it all the time on bumper stickers, T-shirts that have become hip, and the polls that do lie. Time for change is way overdue. "What is everybody waiting on?" Professor Peggy Brown declared "All the evidence is there that the way America is being punished is incorrect. By America, I mean the people on this soil." So the revolution starts now. There is no reason to wait. We have overcome so many obstacles, why wait for more to come? "Today's preparation determines tomorrow's achievements."

Moments is History

(Continued from page 9)

neck speed. I wanted to wage war with whatever organization was responsible for all of the innocent deaths. I did not know it at the time but most people shared the same view as I did.

John Ashcroft, who was the Attorney General at the time, acted immediately by rushing to Congress with The Patriot Act. Ashcroft argued that the Act was the most efficient way to investigate this attack on America and to prevent anything like it from happening again. He said it would do such things as allow the FBI, CIA, and local law enforcement agencies permission to share information on suspected terrorists and their activities. He is right. It does that and a lot more. It is the lot more that I worry about.

David Cunningham, in his book *There's Something Happening Here*, comments on the "sneak and peek" provision of the Act: "Previously, the Bureau could obtain this sort of information from these private institutions, but only if it could demonstrate that the requested records were tied to a particular suspected 'agent of a foreign power.'" The PATRIOT Act provides vastly more latitude in terrorism investigations, allowing agents access not only to records pertaining to these individual suspects but also to entire databases of any companies and institutions whose transactions might plausibly be connected to terrorism investigations. If a terrorism suspect sends email using the Internet service provider AOL, the FBI can not only seek access to that individual's email but also compel AOL to turn over records related to all of its millions of subscribers." Cunningham goes on to give an example: "In early 2002, when the FBI became concerned that a future terrorist threat might come from an underwater attack, agents seized records from hundreds of dive shops and organizations in its attempt to identify everyone who had taken scuba lesson since 1999."

The Justice Department exploited the trauma of September 11 to extend its reach in many directions. Immigration courts were among the first target. Immigration hearings traditionally open to the press and to the public, were closed in the so-called special interest cases (Dow). No explanations followed the lawsuits that were launched on behalf of some of the detainees. The Justice Department simply dropped the cases rather than give any reason as to why these detainees were arrested in the first place. That implies that in the future, more American can expect that same treatment whenever the FBI feels it necessary for 'national security'.

My fellow Americans, think about where you were on the day a few death-wishers decided they did not want to live anymore. The day they decided they were not going to die alone. We all wanted action, maybe to the point that we did not know exactly what we were bargaining for. That's okay. Now is the time to inform ourselves and see to it that our government does not fail in its duty to uphold our Constitution and our civil liberty.

Rosa Parks

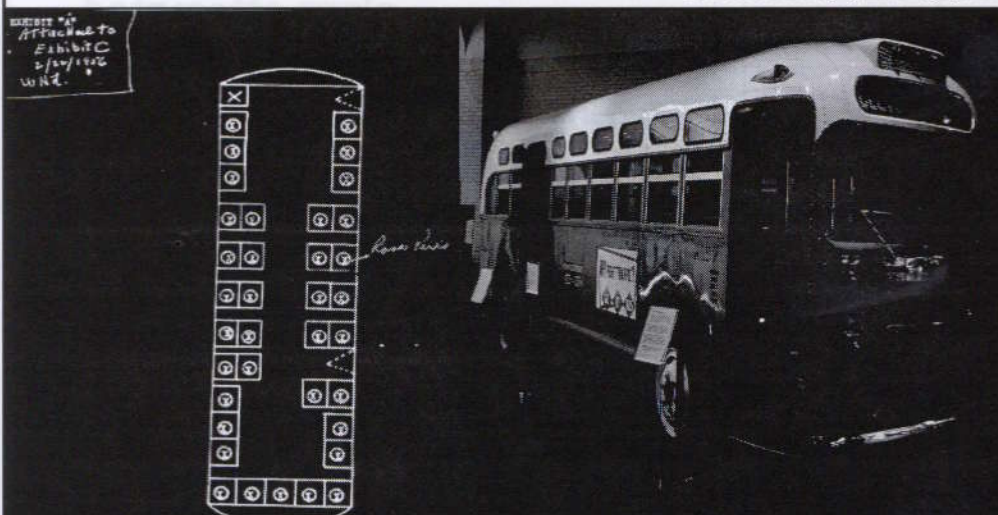
1913-2005

Mother of the Civil Rights Movement

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, a black seamstress in Montgomery Alabama was arrested after refusing to give up a seat on a public bus so that white riders could sit. Her courageous act of defiance led to her arrest helping to ignite the civil rights movement in America. Parks has since earned the title as Mother of the Civil Rights Movement. Rosa Parks died last month in Detroit at the age of 92. As recognition of the significance of her contribution to equal rights and justice for all Americans, Parks body lay in state in the rotunda of the U.S. capitol, the first woman ever to receive this honor.

Photos at right, then clockwise: 1) Parks being fingerprinted by Montgomery Police. 2) Her mug shot. 3) Court Exhibit C, the location of her seat on the bus. 4) Parks Cleveland Avenue bus. Cleveland Avenue is now named Rosa Parks Blvd. and the bus is in a museum. 5) Parks with Martin Luther King Jr. 6) Parks on an integrated bus after the courts rule Montgomery's segregation law unconstitutional. 7) Parks receiving the Congressional Medal of Freedom in 1996, this countries highest civilian honor. She is also a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Photos courtesy of Library of Congress



GAZETTE CULTURE

What's Happening at RCC? Not Enough.

T. Natalie I.

On the Roxbury Community College campus there is a modern 500-seat auditorium theatre, a multi-media broadcast studio and rehearsal classrooms. Yet talented and creative media arts students at are not producing on campus-events like theatrical shows, poetry, spoken word nights, films, and art. With campus fees constantly increasing, the lack of artistic activities raises questions. What cultural amenities are students at RCC receiving for their money?

Dave Coleman, *Professor and Chairman of English and Humanities Department*, has received little cooperation and support from the administration at RCC. For him it has been both discouraging and challenging. He has many ideas he would like to see implemented. "It's an administrative call," he says.

As a professor, he has supported student driven projects in the past but these days he has limited his efforts to the classroom.

"The academic programs that exist, I have spent many years developing, getting them in the curriculum. However, it has been an uphill battle to get the school to support them the way they need to be. If the school wants it, it can happen."

Dave totally supports art exhibits but emphasizes that it cannot happen without the institution support.

The problem is not just the lack of support from the administration. Students need to move toward becoming involved in improving the cultural life on campus. School events, productions, or exhibits require the participation of the students. Participants will make the school a livelier, more creative place. Marshall Hughes, *Director of the Media Arts Theatre* agrees, "The events and exhibition have to be faculty or student driven".

One solution is for students to become more involved in campus clubs, or for students to establish a club them-

(Continued on page 13)



An empty and underutilized gem, RCC's theatre.

August Wilson "Gave Voice to the Nameless Masses"

Black College Wire

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson passed away at age 60 of liver cancer on Oct. 2, but in the minds of artists, scholars and others at historically black colleges and universities, his influence lives on.

Born in Pittsburgh on April 27, 1945, to a German father and black mother, Wilson rose from poverty to critical acclaim as the author of

such plays as "Fences" (1987), "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" (1985), and "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" (1988).

Each of these award winners was a part of Wilson's artistic ambition, which was to write 10 plays, each set in a different decade of the 20th century. Known for his realism, Wilson aspired to document the black experience.

Sandra Shannon, an English professor at Howard, has studied Wilson extensively and written three books about his work.

Referring to Wilson as the "black Shakespeare," Shannon said he was not a historian in the literal sense.

But with his work, she said, Wilson went back in time to fill in some of the blanks history books often gloss over."

He gives voice to the nameless masses, and in that sense I consider him a prophet of his people," Shannon said. Looking at coverage of Hurricane Katrina, Shannon said she likened those who were stranded in the Louisiana Superdome to the characters in Wilson's plays."

His plays were largely about disenfranchised people, marginalized people," Shannon said. "Those are the kind of people whose stories August Wilson could tell. Those are the kind of people he writes about and gives them nobility."

Besides portraying the lives of people Wilson called "leftovers from history," he is credited with revitalizing realism as a genre in theater, in an era when many playwrights write in a postmodern style.

Robin Boisseau, an assistant professor of theater at Hampton University, said Wilson took the genre of realism and "made it his own."

Wilson proved "realism isn't necessarily dead, and we

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

Not Enough

selves. Students can contact Elizabeth Clark, Director of Student Activities for information on forming a club.

If students get more involved in the community, Stephanie Janey, V.P. of *Academic Affairs*, would be more than happy with helping to create a successful community college experience for all students.

Noel is a student, and President of *RCC News Station*, a student driven project established and produced by the T.V. Production Club. In the process of establishing the club, he invited other students to participate in weekly production as news reporters or anchors. He received a flood of applications for potential anchors, but few wanted to volunteer as reporters. The *RCC News* show is aired on Friday's around the school campus.

As colleagues, Professor Petty, Director of Broadcast and Video Production, and Professor Coleman are here to support the students and are willing to collaborate on projects.

(Continued from page 12)

Wilson

can still produce plays that are viable," Boisseau said Wilson's ability to write critically acclaimed pieces that opened on Broadway and also were profitable made Wilson an exceptional artist for his era."

He was a breath of fresh air in a time period that seems to be going more technological and less about the arts," Shannon said.

As members of the theatrical and literary communities mourn the passing of a man some consider to be the greatest playwright of the past century, such artists as David Barrow Wiley speculate about the impact Wilson will have."

He has inspired a younger generation of writers to take stock in their own experience," said Wiley, who is associate artistic director of the Irene C. Edmonds Youth Theater at Florida A&M University."

You will see quite a few writers come forward who have been studying his work."

Shamirrah Hardin, a junior directing major at Howard, is one of those who have studied Wilson's work.

Hardin said she had recently finished reading "Fences" and writing a paper about the play when she learned of Wilson's death. Although she knew he was ill, she said she was surprised by his death.

Hardin said she believed Wilson's influence will endure."

He did a play for every decade, and I feel like that's going to be a part of history for a long time because it is our history told through the arts," Hardin said.

Ayesha Rascoe, a student at Howard University, writes for the *Hilltop*.

FINALLY, AN RCC PARTY

Gregory Saint-Dick

Could this be a dream? An RCC party with good music, and LADIES (wow)? On Friday October 28, club HOPE (making the dream come true) hosted a Halloween party, the first of (hopefully) many parties to come.



A few college parties hold the title of a 'sausage fest' but this was an exception. I danced with about ten girls that night! That is exceptional compared to a school like Salem State where you would be lucky to dance with two girls because the female to male ratio at those parties are usually around 1-4.

Admission was \$3 with RCC ID and \$5 without. I arrived an hour late to the party, and like the majority of the people there, had no costume. Security personnel were prominent both at the entrance and up stairs in the party.

The first half an hour was lifeless; people were just arriving, playing the sidelines, waiting for the icebreakers to hit the dance floor. Once people got comfortable and more students arrived, the party became a smash. Then people sat to catch a breather from all the dancing they were doing.

It was fun," said Tawana, a girl in my Logic class who only showed up about forty minutes before it was over. "It was exceptional actually", said by Frenell, president of the Pizza & Politics club. I asked them both if they planned to attend the next party and both answered yes.

Soda and water were selling for a dollar, and the person with the best Halloween costume won a pair of tickets to the Beenie Man concert. The Runner-up received \$25. I have heard no reports of violence or inappropriate behavior from that night.

I would like to applaud *Club HOPE* for that party. They proved that an institution of higher education in the 'hood' could in fact have an event that was fun and safe. I am convinced that *Club HOPE* is aiming to build school spirit among RCC students that has been missing since my first semester here. This club needs our support because they are doing these events for us. So if you want more parties, support *Club HOPE*.

Empathy Christian White

They tell me that life is for those who trust god
Yet the sinner seems to prosper while the righteous
have it hard.

Which way am I to go – have it hard or just sin?
I'll let you be the judge, come, let me show you where I
live.

From my window I view and smell dirty trash
It's heaped in a car that's been totally smashed.

Burned to the ground, from the smell I can't flee
For its right outside my window. Plus, it's like a hun-
dred degrees.

The children they play as if it doesn't exist;
Behind an overflowing dumpster junkies plot for a fix.

The baseheads are lost and often took aback;
Picking up every pebble mistaking it for crack.

Mamas send there children shopping with holes in
their pants;
To cash coupons and purchase food with stamps.

The police are close, watch out cause they kill!
Batter and beat for the laughs and the thrills.

They come in all shapes and colors and cars;
From taxis to jeeps so many they scarred

To the world they say "Peace, to Protect and Serve"
To some that sounds grand, to me just absurd.

Have it hard or just sin? Have it hard or just sin?
Come, take a walk, if asked you're a friend.

Now look to your left at the beautiful bricks;
Inside it's hell, even hotter with pits.

Some contain sluts, while others just thugs;
Yet these are the worst for they lack any love.

For themselves and their kind, the crippled or blind;
They kill for a name that dies every time.

On the right is the "block". But. Be quiet, don't talk.
Just listen and learn. Just watch and discern.

You see that little girl in the skirt and heels?
That young little boy who stays by her heels?

She is twelve. He is seven. Their daddy's in heaven

Beaten to death with a pipe, three feet to your right.

The mother stays high; pretty soon she'll be gone;
With the AIDS she gives others I hope it's not long.

The scene that you saw is life everyday.
It gets even worse but I see you're dismayed.

And that's the last thing we need because you'll
turn like the rest.

You'll forget what you saw; you'll forget all the
death.

The question I pose to myself everyday:
Is where is this god that created from clay?

Then gave of himself that we might have a soul?
I guess he forgot about us and our homes.

Empathy

**Do You love to write or have
work to be published?
Have you got poems and short
stories?
Would you like to comment
on Gateway articles?
We welcome all contributions
from our fellow students and**



**from RCC staff.
Send to: Editor,**

Poems By Raphael Marduike

HERE ARE THE LEADERS

*It has happened again
As nature test our resolve
To know if we have leaders
Those we could look forward to forever*

*They missed their steps on the 9/11
Now they still went to bed during the hurricane
Because they have no foresight
They could not see the path of life*

*Men and women built this country with provision
for
generations to come
But my generation has no foresight or visions
They just ad hoc leaders
As the apply cut and nail to life*

*I wonder where the leaders are
I beg to see the men and women that make this
country great
I wish they would wake
As America is dying in the hands spoilers*

THEY ARE SURVIVORS

*They are survivors
And cannot be refugees
For this is their land
A country made great and blessed*

*Their sufferings are ours
For nature can strike any time
And nothing much man can do
But rely on fellow man for assistance*

*This is why we must be brother's keeper
We must not make a brother a refugee in his own
country
As it is absolute abomination
Because it is not part of creation*

*Even with the ferocity of the hurricane
Nature still has to calm the hurricane
So we may not all perish but survive
Yes, we must give a shoulder to lean on to own*

NATURE INVADED

*Nature invaded our cities
And we became helpless
We ran from pillar to post
Because we were plan less*

*Even when we were foretold
We never got forearmed
Because we lack the foresight and visions
To know that nature has enormous powers*

*Nature invaded
And my people were allowed to die
My people starved
Yes, my people died from hunger and thirst in the
celebrated land of abundance*

*Nature invaded
America cowed
We could not save brothers and sisters
Because our almighty bureaucracy failed*

*Yet, we have to show our mantle
Even when it is belated
As we once more have to prove our resolve*

SHAME

*We are set to save the world
But not prepared to save our own
It is a shame
It is jumping the hurdles before we look*

*We should look before we jump
So we may know where we are landing
As that decides if we may take another jump
As the wrong jump means falling*

*We have displayed insensitivity
We have shown we are no longer brother's keeper
As cannot recognize a sister
Because we have shown a depraved leadership quality*

*It is a shame we could loose lives
When we have the ability to save lives
As the world watches in amazement*

Tigers Fall Baseball Season Ends on a High Note

Gazette Sports Desk

The Tigers baseball team had a series of wins to close off its Fall season. The mini-winning streak of three games, charged by the arrival of new players this semester, could be a sign of good things to come for a team that had a difficult season last year.

The three game streak was part of the Fall baseball season, which consists of ten inter-league practice games, only 5 of which were played due to inclement weather. These games do not count as part of the regular season which starts next Spring. This Fall's season did pose some challenges for the Tigers who found themselves up against seasoned college players from four-year schools. That can seem daunting for a team that has only just added 12 of its 19 players to its roster at the beginning of this semester. The Tigers had little time to organize and practice as a team before playing in September, perhaps why they lost in their first two outings. The winning streak at the closing of the Fall season gives the team a 3-2 record and will provide the team with some much needed confidence following the disappointment of last Spring's 3-13 season.

The 2005 Spring baseball season was tough on the Tigers. With only one player left from the previous year, Coach Ed Neal had to build and train a completely new team. This was followed by a host of injuries for the team and the lack of a crack man able to play on shortstop, making it difficult for the team to come up with a winning season. One bright spot from last season, according to Neal, was the depth of the Tigers pitching. With luck the quality of pitching will improve even more when the Spring season begins. The first games start in March 25th with indoor training for the team beginning in early February. With 25 regular season games scheduled over seven weeks, the Tigers will have their work cut out for them. This for a group of players who also carry full class loads. Coach Neal says that usually means players have to study on the bus when on the road. Clearly such dedicated players and students deserve our support. When baseball season returns try and get out to a game to cheer the team on.

GET READY!

ITS BASKETBALL SEASON AND THE TIGERS ARE READY TO

ROAR!!!

Season Starts Nov 18th

Tiger's Men's and Women's Basketball



Upcoming Games

DATE	SCHOOL	H/A	TIME	M/W
NOV 18	Gateway C.C.	H	6:00 P	W
	Gateway C.C.	H	8:00 P	M
22	STCC	H	6:00 P	W
28	Ben Franklin	H	7:00 P	M
DEC 1	N.Essex C.C.	H	6:00 P	W
	N.Essex C.C.	H	8:00 P	M
6	Massasoit C.C.	H	6:00 P	W
8	Quinsigamond	H	6:00 P	W
10	Briarwood	H	5:00 P	W
	Briarwood	H	7:00 P	M
13	Massasoit C.C.	H	7:00 P	M
	CCRI	A	7:00 P	M